

Remarks

Status of the Claims

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2006, in which claims 1-4, 7-9, 11-14, 17-19, 21-24, 27-29, and 31-34 were pending in the application. All pending claims stand rejected. By this paper, claims 1, 11, 21, and 31 have been amended.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 11-14, 17, 18, 21-24, 27-29, 31, and 33 stand rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schein (U.S. Patent No. 6,412,110) in view of RD 385007A and further in view of Moir (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0010094). Claims 9, 19, 32, and 34 stand rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schein and RD 384007A in view of Moir, and further in view of Ohkura (U.S. Patent No. 6,347,400).

Examiner Interview Summary

Applicant wishes to express sincere appreciation for the interview granted by Examiners Yimam and Grant and conducted on November 28, 2006. During the interview, it was agreed that the claim amendments presented herein are sufficient to overcome the cited prior art.

In particular, it was agreed that RD 384007A fails to supplement the deficiencies of the other cited references to disclose a separate graph of elapsed time versus running time for a media program that indicates to a user the elapsed

proportion of the media program without requiring the user to refer to other portions of the EPG indicating a start time and an end time associated with the first media program. To the contrary, the EPG disclosed in RD 384007A relies upon the start and end times of each of the individual programs to indicate to the user the elapsed proportion of the programs.

Support for the amendments presented herein can be found in the original disclosure. For example, FIG. 5 shows an EPG 408 having a separate indication or graph 514 that indicates to a user the elapsed proportion (50%) of the media program without reference to the program start time, end time, or any other part of the EPG other than the graph 514 itself.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in combination. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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